

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

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P R 231520Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1763

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1161

LIMDIS

NAIROBI ALSO FOR ASST. SECY DAVIS

EO 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, CG, ZA, US

SUBJECT: POSSIBILITY OF HINTON ISSUE ARISING AT TRIPARTITE MEETING

1. WE HAVE LEARNED FROM RELIABLE GRZ SOURCE THAT PERIODIC MEETING OF PRESIDENTS OF ZAIRE, ZAMBIA, AND TANZANIA PLANNED FOR JULY 5 IN TANZANIA. IT POSSIBLE THAT CIRCUMSTANCES LEADING TO AMB. HINTON'S EXPULSION FROM ZAIRE COULD ARISE IN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS THERE.

2. HAVE ALREADY MADE AVAILABLE TO STATE HOUSE, AS WELL AS TO APPROPRIATE SENIOR OFFICIALS AT FREEDOM HOUSE (UNIP HEADQUARTERS) AND FOREIGN MINISTRY, COPIES OF RELEVANT PORTIONS OF DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFINGS OF JUNE 19 AND 20 AND SECRETARY'S RESPONSE TO WALTER CRONKITE OF JUNE 19.

3. BELIEVE IT IN OUR INTERESTS HERE IN ZAMBIA THAT PRESIDENT KAUNDA BE GIVEN IN CONFIDENCE ANY ADDITIONAL

BACKGROUND INFORMATION OF OUR VERSION OF INCIDENT NOT ONLY FOR HIS GENERAL INTEREST BUT FOR REFERENCE IN ADVANCE OF
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TRIPARTITE MEETING SO THAT BOTH SIDES OF CASE WILL BE

AVAILABLE FOR HIS INDEPENDENT JUDGEMENT. THIS IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT AS UNDERSTAND MY ZAIROIS COLLEAGUE CALLED AT STATE HOUSE JUNE 18, SAW CHONA AND GAVE HIM MOBUTU'S VERSION OF AFFAIR. KAUNDA HAS HAD HIS OWN PROBLEMS IN BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH ZAIRE STEMMING FROM MOBUTU'S ARBITRARY ACTIONS AND PROPENSITY FOR EXTRAVAGANCE AND EGO-BUILDING AND HAS PROBABLY ALREADY APPLIED A CERTAIN DISCOUNT FACTOR TO INFORMATION ON HINTON AFFAIR PROVIDED BY MOBUTU. STILL, KAUNDA HAS ABIDING FEAR OF AND DISTASTE FOR MILITARY COUPS IN AFRICAN STATES AND MAY BE SYMPATHETIC TO MOBUTU'S STORY UNLESS WE CAN PROVIDE HIM WITH PERSUASIVE COUNTERVAILING FACTS OF US INNOCENCE IN ANY COUP-PLOTTING BY ZAIROIS MILITE
Y.

4. IN ABSENCE OF FONMIN BANDA WHO NOT TAKING OFFICIAL CALLS PENDING HIS FORMAL SWEARING IN, HAVE APPOINTMENT WITH MINISTER OF STATE FOR FONAFF SILWIZYA FOR 0900R JUNE 24
FOR MAIN PURPOSE DISCUSSING SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL FOR CLOSER INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION. WILL ALSO ORALLY REVIEW GUIDANCE REFERRED TO IN PARA 2 ABOVE.

5. HAVE REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT KAUNDA FOR POST-MORTEM ON WASHINGTON VISIT, REVIEW OF DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION, AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENTS AS SOON AS HE RETURNS FROM WORKING VACATION AT END OF WEEK OF JUNE 23. REALISTICALLY APPOINTMENT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE UNTIL AFTER KAUNDA MAKES MAJOR POLITICAL ADDRESS TO UNIP NATIONAL COUNCIL JUNE 30.
WILKOWSKI

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